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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 3, 8, 9, and 11-15 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A contextual location-based service apparatus containing commercial location-based information and user-supplied location-based information, comprising:
  - a) a computer-based infrastructure, comprising:
    - 1) at least one database for storing the commercial location-based information and the user-supplied location-based information on at least one location;
    - 2) a context manager, coupled to the database, for indexing and sorting the commercial location-based information and the user-supplied location-based information stored in the database;
    - 3) a contribution engine, coupled to the database, for ~~entering, storing,~~ managing, and retrieving additional user-supplied location-based information in the database;
    - 4) a locator, coupled to the contribution engine and the database, for converting a plurality of references to a specific location to a common location designation;
    - 5) a location browser, coupled to the database, for retrieving and reviewing the user-supplied location-based information in the database; and
  - b) at least one client, which communicates with the infrastructure, for at least entering and editing the user-supplied location-based information in the database.
2. (ORIGINAL) The contextual location-based service apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a link manager, coupled to the database, for linking a plurality of locations within the database to each other.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The contextual location based service apparatus of claim 2, further comprising a rating engine, coupled to the database, wherein the at least one client enters rating information stored in the database about the user-supplied location-based information.

4. (ORIGINAL) The contextual location based service apparatus of claim 3, further comprising--a charge and payment manager, coupled to the database, for controlling access to information in the database and for collecting fees from a user of a client for accessing the controlled access information in the database.

5. (ORIGINAL) The contextual location based service apparatus of claim 4, further comprising a mapping engine, coupled to the database, for providing to the client a visual output of information, thematic information, and metadata-stored in the database.

6. (ORIGINAL) The contextual location based service apparatus of claim 5, further comprising a route planner, coupled to the link manager and the database, for accessing information stored in the database in sequence as the client travels between the plurality of locations.

7. (ORIGINAL) The contextual location based service apparatus of claim 6, further comprising an Intellectual Property manager, coupled to the database and the charge and payment manager, for providing proper access to intellectual property stored in the database.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for providing contextual location-based information in a system which includes at least commercial location-based information and user-supplied location-based information, comprising:

associating a plurality of user-supplied location-based information to ~~[[the]]~~ a transition between locations;

entering, using at least one client, a plurality of pieces of user-supplied contextual location-based information into a database;

determining a location reference for each piece of user-supplied contextual location-based information;

sorting the contextual user-supplied location-based information by determined location reference;

accessing the database by a location query, wherein the location query is compared to the determined location reference of the contextual location-based information; and

reporting results of the location query to at least one other client.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 8, further comprising: entering a fee amount for accessing a specific piece of the user-supplied contextual location-based information; and charging the fee amount to a user before, during, or after the specific piece of user-supplied contextual location-based information is accessed.

10. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9, further comprising linking at least two determined location references to each other.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 10, further comprising entering a rating ~~associated with~~ of the user-supplied contextual location-based information for evaluating the user-supplied contextual location-based information entered in the database, wherein the at least one client is used to enter the rating.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 11, further comprising [[a]] storing visual data as at least a portion of the user-supplied contextual location-based information entered in the database, for providing to the client a visual output of information stored in the database.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 12, further comprising linking a plurality of pieces of user-supplied contextual location-based information in the database, for accessing the pieces of user-supplied contextual location-based information stored in the database in sequence.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 13, further comprising controlling access to intellectual property entered as user-supplied contextual pieces of information stored in the database.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A contextual location services system, comprising:  
a database for storing user-supplied contextual location-based information and commercially-supplied location-based information on a plurality of geographic locations, and  
a client, which communicates with the database, for retrieving and entering the stored user-supplied contextual location-based information, comprising a mobile communications device, wherein the client retrieves the user-supplied contextual location-based information based on geographic location and is able to select one or more pieces of user-supplied contextual location-based information for presentation on the client, wherein presentation on the client includes audio presentation, video presentation, and audio/visual presentation, and the user-supplied contextual location-based information includes at least location information and at least one other piece of information about the geographic location, wherein the client is able to rate the user-supplied contextual location-based information.